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CAPInv. 2136: Mesogeioi

i.	Geographical area	Attica with Salamis
ii.	Region	Attica
iii.	Site	Athens

II. NAME

i. Full name (original language)	Μεσόγειοι (IG II ² 1244, 2, 6-8; IG II ² 1245, 2, 10, 11-12, 14-15; IG II ² 1247, 10)
ii. Full name (transliterated)	Mesogeioi

III. DATE

i. Date(s)

337 - m. iii BC

IV. NAME AND TERMINOLOGY

i.	Name in other forms	Μεσόγεοι (IG II ² 1247, 5, 15) Mesogeoi
ii.	Name elements	Geographical: It designates the in-landers.
iii.	Descriptive terms	κοινόν, koinon
	Note	In IG II ² 1244, 7-8 the following descriptive term is restored: [τῶι κοινῶι τ]/ῶι Μεσογεί[ων] (<i>toi koinoi t/on Mesogeion</i>). Schlaifer 1944, 25-27 on the basis of the <i>stoichedon</i> arrangement finds that this restoration is one letter longer than the available space and restores γένει, <i>genei</i> , see however, the objection of Jones 1999, 238 n. 82.

V. SOURCES

i. Source(s)

IG II² 1244 (337-323 BC) IG II² 1245 (275/4 BC) IG II² 1247 (m. iii BC)



	Note	IG II ² 1244 Ed. pr. <i>Athenaion</i> 8 (1879) 233 no. 3 (<i>APMA</i> 1, 96 αρ. 372). Other publications: IG II.5 603b. <i>Arch. Eph.</i> 1905, 231 no. 8. Michel 1912: no. 1546. Malouchou 2019: 86 no. 5. Cf. SEG 22.121; 47.33; 48.128; <i>BE</i> 1966, no. 146; 2020, no. 148. Tracy 1995: 114 (date). IG II ² 1245 Ed. pr. <i>Eph. Arch.</i> 1840, 307 no. 369 (<i>APMA</i> 5, no. 2652). Other publications: Curtius 1843: 1 no. 1. Rangabes 1855: no. 799. IG II 602. Malouchou 2019: 72 no. 2. Cf. Papazarkadas 2011: 176-7; 182-3. SEG 47.33; 48.2171; 56.3; 57.133; 63.108; <i>BE</i> 1946/7, no. 91; 1966, no. 146; 2020, no. 148.
	Online Resources	IG II ² 1247 Ed. pr. <i>Athenaion</i> 4 (1875) 112 no. 4 (<i>APMA</i> 1, 92 no. 1). Other publications: IG ii 603. Malouchou 2019: 82 no. 4. Cf. SEG 47.33; 48.2171; <i>BE</i> 1946/7, no. 91; 1966, no. 146; 2020, no. 148. <u>IG II² 1244</u> <u>IG II² 1245</u> <u>IG II² 1247</u>
i.a.	Source type(s)	Epigraphic source(s)
i.b.	Document(s) typology & language/script	IG II ² 1244 Honorary decree for an unknown person. IG II ² 1245 Honorary decree for Polyeuktos son of Lysistratos of Bate.
		IG II ² 1247 Honorary decree for Epigenes son of Metrodoros of Kydathenai.
i.c.	Physical format(s)	IG II ² 1244 Lower part of a marble stele (0.22x0,16x0,068m) IG II ² 1245 Upper part of a marble pedimental stele (0,422x0,45x0,07m)
		IG II ² 1247 Marble stele (1,08x0,32x0,25m).
ii.	Source(s) provenance	IG II^2 1244 Found in the area of Kamatero, between Chasia and Liosia. Now in the Epigraphical Museum EM 7753.
		IG II ² 1245 Found in the locality called in the 19th century <i>Batheia</i> , near modern Bathes Squ. Now in the Epigraphical Museum, EM 7757a
		IG II ² 1247 Found in the locality called in the 19th century <i>Batheia</i> , near modern Bathes Squ. Now in the Epigraphical Museum EM 10552.

VI. BUILT AND VISUAL SPACE

ii. References to buildings/objects	In IG II ² 1244, 3 and in IG II ² 1245, 15 there is a reference to a sanctuary (ἰερόν, <i>hieron</i>) perhaps to be identified with the one mentioned in IG II ² 1247, 27 and with that referred to in IG II ² 1247, 15 as 'Ηρακλέωι (<i>Herakleoi</i>), restored also in IG II ² 1244, 4. The sanctuary was either used or owned by the group. In IG II ² 1244, 6 there is a reference to a γραμματεῖον (<i>grammateion</i>), an archive surely belonging to the group.
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ii.	Leadership	Perhaps the person designated as $\ddot{\alpha} \rho \chi \omega v$ (<i>archon</i>) was the leader of the group.	
	Known practice of appointment	Elected annualy as implied in IG II^2 1247, 28-29.	
iii.	Members	IG II ² 1245 Two masculine names. IG II ² 1247 Three masculine names.	



iv.	Officials	 IG II² 1244, 9: ταμίας, <i>tamias</i> (treasurer); 1.6: [ἄρχων], <i>[archon</i>] (leader). IG II² 1245, 2: ἄρχων, <i>archon</i> (leader) IG II² 1247, 4, 28-29: ἄρχων, <i>archon</i> (leader), 1. 13, 21: κῆρυξ, <i>kerux</i> (herald); 11.19-20: μνήμων, <i>mnemon</i> (recorder).
v .	Other staff	IG II ² 1247, 18: ἰερεὺς Ἡρακλέους, <i>hiereus Herakleous</i> (priest of Heracles); 1.19: ἱερεὺς Διόμου, <i>hiereus Diomou</i> (priest of Diomos); 1. 20: πυρφόρος, <i>purphoros</i> (fire-carrier); 11.20-21: κοραγωγός, <i>koragogos</i> (leader of the Maiden). Parker 1996, 306 argues that the priests of Heracles and Diomos were likely members of the group. However, two points may raise doubt; they are not mentioned by name and they are crowned with an olive-leaves crown, of lesser value than the golden crown. Therefore, they may belong to the personnel of the sanctuary and not to the association.
viii.	Obligations	In IG II ² 1244, 5-11, the archon is ordained to register in the archive the decision of the group, while the treaturer is to provide the funds for its inscription on stone. In IG II ² 1247, 27-31 the archon is ordained to pay 10 dr. from the common fund (κοινὴ πρόσοδος τῶν τοῦ θεοῦ χρημάτων, <i>koine prosodos ton tou theou chrematon</i>) for the inscription of the decree on the stele and 15 dr. for a sacrifice.

i.	Treasury/Funds	IG II ² 1244, 8-11: The treasurer is asked to provide 20 dr. against the cost of the inscription of the decision, from the fund reserved for decrees. IG II ² 1247, 28-31: The association had a treasury from which its activities like sacrifices, inscription of decrees on stone stelai, were funded.
ii.	Realty	In IG II ² 1244, 3 and in IG II ² 1245, 15 there is a reference to a sanctuary ($i\epsilon\rho\delta\nu$, <i>hieron</i>) perhaps to be identified with the one mentioned in IG II ² 1247, 27 and with that referred to in IG II ² 1247, 15 as 'H $\rho\alpha\kappa\lambda\delta\omega\iota$ (<i>Herakleoi</i>), restored in IG II ² 1244, 4. Perhaps this sanctuary was either used or owned by the group, see Parker 1999, 306-7. In IG II ² 1244, 6 there is a reference to a $\gamma\rho\alpha\mu\mu\alpha\tau\epsilon\iota$ ov (<i>grammateion</i>), an archive surely belonging to the group.
iii.	Income	Perhaps the term ἀγοραστικόν, <i>agorastikon</i> denotes income from the sanctuary's property (situated in the agora?), according to Malouchou 2019: 75; cf. Bubelis 2013.

i.	Number	IG II ² 1245: 2 names. IG II ² 1247: 3 names.
ii.	Gender	Men
	Note	IG II ² 1245: Άμυνόμαχος Φιλοκράτου Βατῆθεν, Ath. Onom. s.v. (4) Πολύευκτος Αυσιστράτου Βατῆθεν, Ath. Onom. s.v. (28) IG II ² 1247: Ἐπιγένης Μητροδώρου Κυδαθηναιεύς, Ath. Onom. s.v. (62) Προκλείδης ἐκ Κεραμέων, Ath. Onom. s.v. (20) Ἀδείμαντος, Ath. Onom. s.v. (7)
iii.	Age	Adults
iv.	Status	IG II ² 1245: Citizens IG II ² 1247: Two of them certainly citizens, the third most probably.



iii.	Worship	 IG II² 1244, 5: Reference to a regular sacrifice (θυσία, <i>thusia</i>) and to a celebration (although restored) (ἑορτή, <i>heorte</i>). IG II² 1245, 3-10: Reference to performance of a sacrifice and a procession in honour of Heracles and further rituals, like sharing the meat (κρεανομία, <i>kreanomia</i>), decorating tables (ἐπικόσμησις τραπέζης, <i>epikosmesis trapezes</i>). IG II² 1247, 5-10: Reference to the performance, according to the ancestral manner, of sacrifices to the gods and heroes, a procession (πομπή, <i>pompe</i>) in honour of Heracles and the provision of meat (probably for the sacrifice). In line 14 a celebration of Heracles is mentioned, probably identical with the day of sacrifice and procession.
	Deities worshipped	In IG II^2 1247, there are references to the worship of Herakles and an enigmatic reference to the Athenian hero Diomos (Kearns 1989, 156), see Malouchou 2019: 85. For the festival see Parker 2005, 472-3.
iv.	Honours/Other activities	IG II ² 1245, 12-15: The honoured magistrate is to be commended (ἐπαινέσαι, <i>epainesai</i>) and crowned (στεφανῶσαι, <i>stephanosai</i>) with a golden crown (χρυσός στέφανος, <i>chrysos stephanos</i>). IG II ² 1247, 10-25: The honoured magistrates are to be commended (ἐπαινέσαι, <i>epainesai</i>) and crowned (στεφανῶσαι, <i>stephanosai</i>), the archon with a golden crown (χρυσός στέφανος, <i>chrysos stephanos</i>) worth 500 dr. while the rest with an olive crown (στέφανος θαλλοῦ, <i>stephanos thallou</i>). In addition, the archon will be honoured with a proclamation of his crowning by the herald (ἀνειπέτω ὁ κῆρυξ, <i>aneipeto ho keryx</i>) during the festival of Heracles.

iii. Bibliography	 Bubelis, W. (2013), 'The agorastikon of Hellenistic Athens', ZPE 185: 122-6. Curtius, E. (1843), Inscriptiones Atticae nuper repertae duodecim. Berlin. Jones, N. F. (1999), The associations of classical Athens : the response to democracy. Oxford. Malouchou, Geörgia E. (2019), 'To Hērakleion tōn Mesogeiōn; hoi epigraphikes martyries', in Matthaiou, Ang. P. and Bardani, V. (eds), Stephanōi stephanos. Meletes eis mnēmēn Stephanou N. Koumanoudē (1931-1987), Athenai: 67-97. Kearns, Emily (1989), The heroes of Attica. London. Michel, Ch. (1912), Recueil d'inscriptions grecques. Supplement, Paris. Papazarkadas, N. (2011), Sacred and public land in ancient Athens. Oxford. Parker, R. (1996), Athenian religion. A history. Oxford. Parker, R, (2005), Polytheism and society at Athens. Oxford. Rangabes, A. R. (1855), Antiquites helleniques ou repertoire d'inscriptions et d'autre antiquites decouvertes depuis l'affranchissement de la Grece. Athenes. Schlaifer, R. (1944), 'The Attic association of MEΣΟΓΕΙΟΙ', Classical Philology 39: 22-27.
	Tracy, S. V. (1995), Athenian democracy in transition: Attic letter-cutters of 340 to 290 B.C Berkeley.

i. Private association	Probable
Note	It is the current orthodoxy to regard <i>Mesogeioi</i> as a <i>genos</i> (e.g., most recently and comprehensively Parker 1996, 306). Jones 1999, 238-9 rejects the identification with a <i>genos</i> . The preserved evidence cannot exclude the possibility of <i>Mesogeioi</i> being a cult association, so Malouchou 2019: 89, where the most recent discussion. The association has a distinct name, internal organization, but its link with the <i>polis</i> through the performance of a minor ritual remains an assumption.

